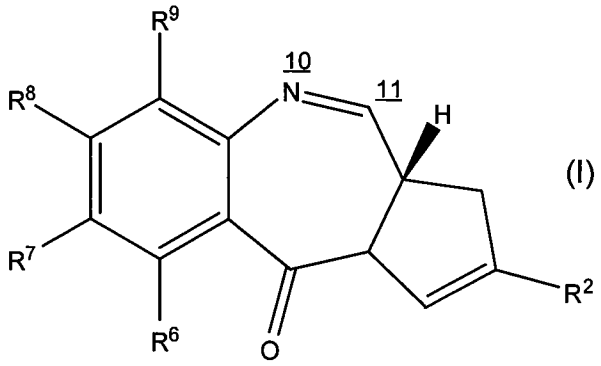
Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently amended) A compound of formula (I):



(I)

~~and~~ or pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvates, or N_{10}-C_{11} imine bond prodrugs thereof, wherein:

R^6, R^7 and R^9 are independently selected from H, R, OH, OR, SH, SR, NH_2, NHR, NHRR', nitro, Me_3Sn and halo;

where R and R' are independently selected from C_{1-7} alkyl, ~~C_{3-20} heterocyclyl~~ heterocyclyl having 3 to 20 ring atoms of which 1 to 10 are ring heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting N, O and S and ~~C_{5-20} aryl groups~~ aryl or heteroaryl having 5 to 20 ring atoms, the heteroaryl groups having one or more heteratoms independently selected from the group consisting of N, O and S;

R^8 is selected from H, R, OH, OR, SH, SR, NH_2, NHR, NHRR', nitro, Me_3Sn and halo, or the compound is a dimer with each monomer being of formula (I), where the R^8 groups of each monomers form together a dimer bridge having the formula -X-R"-X- linking the monomers, where R" is a C_{3-12} alkylene group, which chain may be interrupted by one or more heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of O, S, and NH, and/or aromatic rings selected from the group consisting of benzene and pyridine, and each X is independently selected from O, S, or NH;

or any pair of adjacent groups from R^6 to R^9 together form a group $-O-(CH_2)_p-O-$, where p is 1 or 2; and

R^2 is ~~selected from:~~

~~(i)~~ a napthyl group, optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of halo, C_{1-7} alkyl, C_{1-7} alkoxy, C_{3-20} heterocyclyl, C_{5-20} heterocyclyl, ~~ether~~, and ~~C_{5-20} aryl groups~~ aryl or heteroaryl having 5 to 20 ring atoms, the heteroaryl groups having one or more heteratoms independently selected from the group consisting of N, O and S;

~~(ii) a thiophenyl or furanyl group, optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of halo, C_{1-7} alkyl, ether, and C_{5-20} aryl groups; and~~

~~(iii) a phenyl group substituted by:~~

~~(a) one or more chloro or fluoro groups;~~

~~(b) an ethyl or propyl group;~~

~~(c) a 4-t-butyl group;~~

~~(d) a 2-methyl group; or~~

~~(e) two methyl groups in the 2- and 6- positions~~.

2. Canceled.

3. Canceled.

4. (Previously presented) A compound according to claim 1, wherein R^9 is H.

5. (Previously presented) A compound according to claim 1, wherein R^6 is H.

6. (Previously presented) A compound according to claim 1, wherein R^7 and R^8 (when the compound is not a dimer) are selected from OMe and OCH_2Ph.

7. (Canceled)

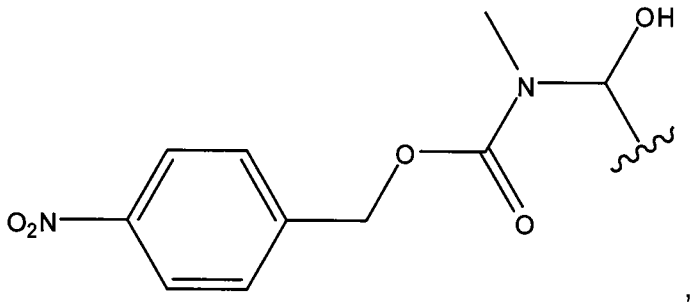
8. (Previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition containing a compound of claim 1, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Previously presented) A method of treatment of melanomas, or breast, renal, or lung cancer, comprising administering to a subject in need of treatment a therapeutically-effective amount of a compound of claim 1.

11. (New) A compound according to claim 1, wherein the N_{10}-C_{11} imine bond prodrug comprises a nitrogen protecting group on N_{10} which can be removed *in vivo* and a hydroxyl, ester or thioester group on C_{11}.

12. (New) A compound according to claim 11, wherein the nitrogen protecting group is selected from the group consisting of



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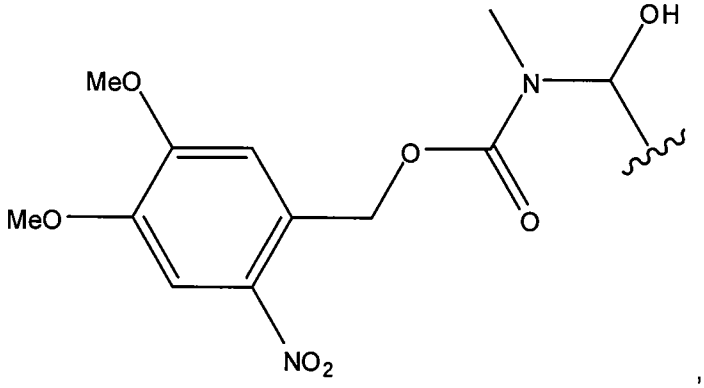

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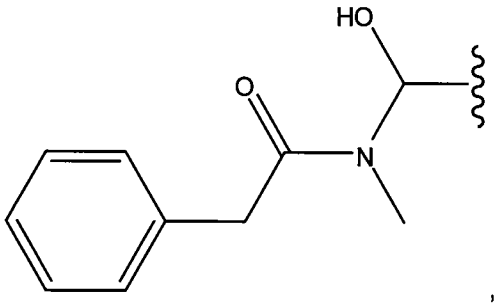

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